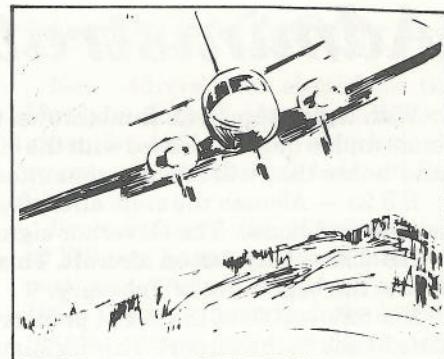


# Montana and the Sky



Vol. 32, No. 4

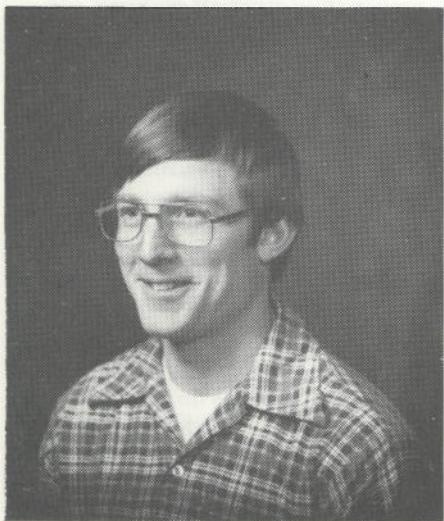
MONTANA AERONAUTICS DIVISION

April, 1981

## Mechanics Scholarship Awarded

Rick Geiger, son of Dick and Lola Geiger, Valier, has been awarded the Montana Aeronautics Division's Aviation Mechanics Scholarship. This award is given to the graduating student who has maintained the highest grade average during the combined Airframe and Powerplant Aviation Maintenance Technician Program at the Helena Vocational-Technical Center. The award is in the amount of \$250 and is applied toward the purchase of a set of tools.

Mr. Geiger, who recently graduated, will be working for Glacier Air in Cut Bank, Montana.



Rick Geiger was the recipient of a \$250 scholarship from the Montana Aeronautics Division.

## Reagan Picks Helms

J. Lynn Helms has been named by President Reagan for the job of FAA Administrator. Helms is an aeronautical engineer, former test pilot, and a private sector manager with a proven track record. Most recently, he was President, Chief Executive Officer and Board Chairman of Piper Aircraft Corporation. The 56-year-old Helms was born in DeQueen, Arkansas and earned his B.S. in aeronautical engineering from Oklahoma University. During World War II, he flew with the Marine Corps and later served as a test pilot and instructor pilot. He left the military in 1956 to become a design engineer with North American Aviation in Columbus, Ohio. He moved to the Bendix Corporation in 1963 and in just seven years rose to the position of group vice president. From 1970 to 1974, he was president of the Norden Division of United Aircraft and then was named president of Piper. During his six years at Piper, Helms turned the company around and, according to the Wall Street Journal, saw its market share rise from 23 to 33 percent, its sales from \$146 million to \$446.7 million and its pretax profits from \$2.9 million to \$42.1 million. He resigned from Piper last November.

Helms is still an active pilot with more than 10,000 hours in his log book. He holds a commercial certificate, single and multi-engine ratings and an instrument rating. He is a member of various aviation organizations, including the Society of Ex-

perimental Test Pilots and the Pioneer Club. He was elected to the latter organization for being the first pilot to exceed 1,000 m.p.h. in a combat aircraft. Before Helms can take the Administrator's oath of office he must be confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Hearings will be held by the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee in the near future.

## Summer Activities

With spring and summer approaching along comes many aviation activities such as airshows, fly-ins, contests, etc. Many aviators over the past years have been disappointed when they learned of an activity only after it had happened. To try and avoid this, Montana and the Sky would appreciate receiving notice well in advance of your activities to share with others.

## Attn: Aircraft Owners

If it has been 36 months or more since you've filed an application for an original or duplicate registration, change of address, new aircraft ID request, or a Triennial Aircraft Registration report, you are required to fill out form 8050-73 and return it to the Federal Aviation Administration.

These forms are available at the Helena and Billings Flight Service District Offices.

# Administrator's Column

With legislature in its final throws, the aviation community can relax a little more and to date be pleased with the bills which have passed through the senate and house that will affect aeronautical activities positively. Here's an update:

HB 23 — Abolish the state aircraft pool. This bill quickly passed through the senate and house. The Governor signed the bill into law February 27.

HB 326 — City tax on aircraft. This bill was killed on second reading in the house the beginning of February.

HB 525 — 90% of the flight property tax on state-owned airports to be allocated back to the airport. This legislation affects only Yellowstone Airport and has passed the house and senate and was sent to the Governor for signature on March 27.

HB 540 — Change the aircraft registration date to 1 June. This bill has passed the house and senate and was sent to the Governor on March 26 for his signature.

HB 548 — Increase the aviation fuel tax by 1¢ to be earmarked solely for airport development and navigational aids. This bill was sponsored by the Montana Pilots Association, the Montana Aviation Trades Association, the Montana Flying Farmers, the Montana Antique Aircraft Association, and the Montana 99s. The Aeronautics Board also supported the bill, however, the major airlines, along with a couple of special interest parties from Great Falls, have mounted a strong lobby in opposition. This bill passed through the house and currently is still in the senate taxation committee.

HB 630 — Flight security at state-owned airports. This would allow the Aeronautics Division to act as a municipality in hiring FAA-required flight security officers. This bill has passed the house and senate and was sent to the Governor for signature on March 27.

SB 12 — Sunset of earmarked revenue money. This bill will be a companion to the existing sunset law and will tie the Aeronautics Division's earmarked revenue account to the Aeronautics Board sunset review in 1983. This bill is in the taxation committee and has had no report to date.

SB 126 — Assessment of autos, trucks, aircraft, etc. This bill has been transferred to the house and assigned to the House Taxation Committee.

SB 148 — Exemption of privately owned airports from personal property tax. This bill was killed in committee.

SB 284 — This bill clarified two conflicting sections in the statutes as to how much money a county can indebt itself without a vote of the people. The bill has passed the senate and house and was sent to the Governor for signature the end of March.

SB 432 — This bill will reorganize the Department of Community Affairs, the Department of Business Regulations and the Department of Professional and Occupational Licensing into a new Department of Commerce. It has passed through both the senate and house and is awaiting the Governor's signature.



The Montana Aeronautics Board received an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from Minuteman Aviation, Inc., located in Missoula, Montana. Minuteman proposes to offer daily flights from Missoula to Boise and back. A hearing is scheduled for April 9 to review the application.



The Division hosted the Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic on March 6 to 8 with 37 instructors attending. According to the critique forms we received from the participants the clinic was well received. Greg Gorak, president and founder of GAITs Teaching Seminars did an outstanding job of providing current instructional material to those in attendance. The Aeronautics Division provided instructor reinstatement check rides on March 9th for those requiring them.



Montana and the Sky

USPS 359 860

DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Ted Schwinden, Governor

Dave Wanzenried, Acting Director

Martin T. Mangan, Deputy Director

Official Monthly Publication

of the

AERONAUTICS DIVISION

Phone 449-2506

Box 5178

Helena, Montana 59604

Michael D. Ferguson  
Administrator

## BOARD OF AERONAUTICS

Herb Sammons, Chairman

Richard O'Brien, Vice Chairman

A.J. Patenaude, Secretary

Bruce Vanica, Member

Maurice Sandmeyer, Member

James McLean, Member

Robert N. Miller, Member

MONTANA AND THE SKY is published monthly in the interest of aviation in the State of Montana.

Second-Class postage paid at

Helena, Montana 59604

Subscription \$2.00 per year

Editor: Paula K. Lindsey



Creative Press

## *Administrator's Column Continued*



The Division also hosted a Survival Clinic on March 20 and 21. See article on page 4. It is extremely disturbing to learn that this clinic was criticized, along with other aeronautics safety and education programs, during the senate taxation committee hearing on House Bill 548 as being a wasteful expenditure of aeronautics money. Critiques from participants of these programs certainly indicate otherwise. I hereby request that participants who have not already done so, to please mail us your critique and let us know how you feel in regard to these programs and whether or not you want your aviation fuel tax money spent on such programs.



## New Billings Workshop Director



By Evelyn Sedivy, Supervisor Safety and Education Bureau

The Aeronautics Division is pleased to announce the appointment of Dorothy K. Curtis as the new director of the aerospace education workshop at Billings. The Billings workshop, sponsored by the Aeronautics Division and accredited through Eastern Montana College, is one of seven aerospace workshops held each summer in the state.

Dorothy has a strong background in both aviation and education. She is a licensed pilot and is a member of the Montana Chapter Ninety-Nines, Montana Pilots Association and the Montana Antique Aircraft Association. Dorothy and her husband, Ray, own a Cessna 210. She is a certified teacher and currently serves as a sub-

stitute teacher for School District #2 in Billings. She also works at the Eastern Montana College Library in all departments as needed.

As workshop director, Dorothy will have such responsibilities as planning the workshop program, scheduling guest speakers, obtaining materials and demonstrating to the teacher participants how to put the aeronautical knowledge gained from the workshop to use in their classrooms. Although the summer workshop is only two weeks in length, the director's responsibility extends throughout the entire year. The director also helps to serve as an area coordinator for other aerospace education activities and projects developed through the Montana Aeronautics Division.

Dorothy replaced Mr. Buzz Christianson who served as the Billings workshop director for several years.



Dorothy Curtis, the new Director of the Aerospace Teacher Workshop in Billings.

## New MAMA Officers

New officers were elected for the Montana Airport Managers Association for 1981 at the association's recent winter meeting held at Big Sky.

Bruce Putnam, director of aviation at Billings Logan International Airport was elected the president for 1981. Other officers include Angelo Petroni, airport manager, Butte, vice president, and Ted Mathis, Assistant Airport Manager at Helena, secretary-treasurer.

Members of the board of directors include: Joe Atwood, assistant airport director, Great Falls; Ron Dent, airport manager, West Yellowstone; and Don Rees, airport manager at Sidney.

Bud Kelleher, airport manager in Helena, will continue to serve as the association's executive secretary.

## 99s Meet in Great Falls

Beautiful weather was a positive factor for a successful meeting of the Montana Chapter 99s in Great Falls on March 14. Ninety-Nines in attendance were Dorothy Albright, Roundup, Sandy Ellis, Great Falls, Pat Johnson and Evelyn Sedivy, Helena, Nancy Larsen, Betty Nunn, and Dorothy Curtis, all of Billings, Darlene Olson, Clinton, and Vivienne Schrank, Jordan.

Discussion centered on topics pertaining to the reorganization of the chapter and future activities. Election of officers will be handled by a mail vote prior to the April meeting. Betty Nunn, Darlene Olson and Evelyn Sedivy served as the Nominating Committee. Future meeting sites will be selected and published three months in advance. Dates will alternate between the second Saturday and second Sunday of each month unless the date falls on a holiday or other major conflict of activity.

Women pilots who may be interested in the 99s are invited to attend any meeting or to contact Evelyn Sedivy at the Aeronautics Division for information.

# Survival Clinic

The Montana Aeronautics Division hosted a special survival clinic in Helena over the weekend of March 20 and 21. Skip Stoffel and Rick LaValla, co-authors of the book, *Survival Sense for the Modern Pilot*, conducted the clinic.

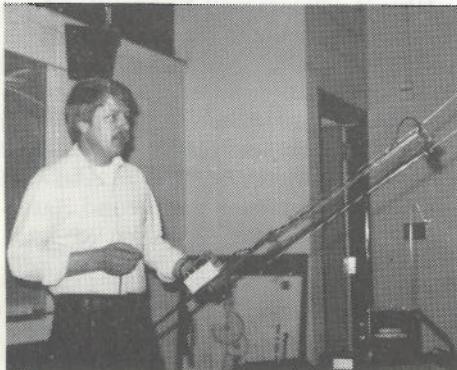
The Division originally scheduled the clinic at the National Guard facilities on the Helena airport but the response was so overwhelming the location was changed to the aviation vo-tech center on the airport in order to facilitate all the people who had registered.

The weather didn't fully cooperate (we're used to that in Montana, right?) and some were not able to attend. In spite of the weather more than 130 people showed up for the clinic.

Some of the points Rick and Skip elaborated on were emergency landing techniques, body management, the priorities and necessities of life, and emergency preparedness skills.

The "Little Demon" Special Forces Combat Stove sold out before many were able to purchase them. These stoves may be obtained from the Survival Education Association, 9035 Golden Given Road, Tacoma, WA 98445, for approximately \$12.00

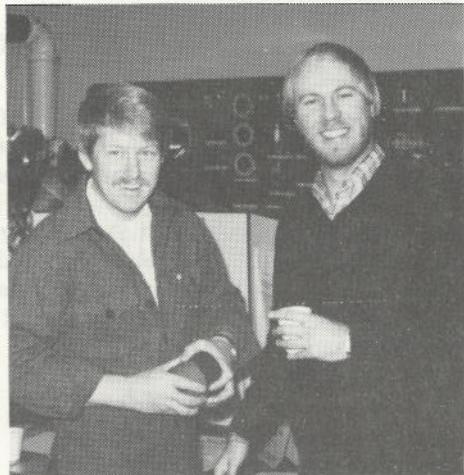
This was the first clinic of this kind to be sponsored in Montana. We are considering hosting a survival clinic as an annual event with the next one possibly being held in a more central location of the state.



Skip demonstrated the use of the hand-held emergency locator transmitter used in searches.



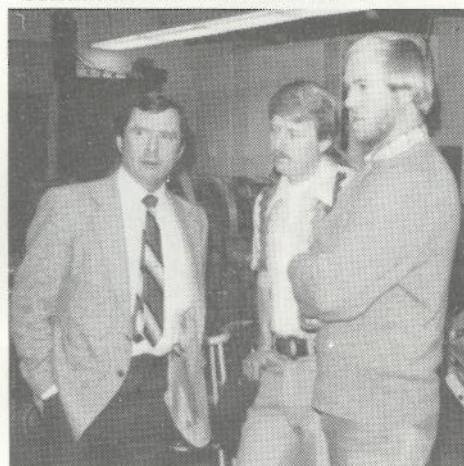
We were pleased to have Representative Jim Burnett, Luther, attend the survival clinic.



Skip Stoffel, left and Rick LaValla conducted the survival clinic.



Rick shows how a trash bag carried in your pocket can provide safety from the elements.



Mike Ferguson, left, discussed with Skip and Rick the content of the clinic.



Over 130 people attended the clinic held at the aviation Vo-Tech Center on the Helena Airport.



On display were first aid kits, emergency stoves, and literature showing survival techniques.

## Calendar

**May 3** — 99s meeting, Lewistown, at 2:00 p.m., Skycraft.

**May 29-31** — Wyoming Flying Farmers Convention, Holiday Inn, Gillette.

**June 1** — The Yellowstone Airport, West Yellowstone, Montana, re-opens for the season. Free pilots campground. For more info contact Ron Dent (406) 449-2506.

**June 6** — 99s meeting, Miles City, bring picnic lunch, 10:00 a.m.

**June 8 to 17** — Bozeman Aerospace Teacher Workshop, Montana State University.

**June 12 to 14** — Montana Pilots Association Convention, Glasgow. Contact Doug Campbell in Glasgow for details, 228-4876.

**June 15 to July 3** — Butte Aerospace Teacher Workshop, Butte Tech.

**June 15 to 26** — Helena Aerospace Teacher Workshop, Carroll College.

**June 15 to July 2** — Kalispell Aerospace Teacher Workshop.

**June 16 to 18, 23 to 25** — Great Falls Aerospace Teacher Workshop, College of Great Falls.

**June 18 to 20, 25 to 27** — Havre Aerospace Teacher Workshop, Northern Montana College.

**June 22 to July 2** — Billings Aerospace Teacher Workshop, Eastern Montana College.

**July 7 & 8** — FAA Mechanics Examiners Clinic, Helena. Location to be announced.

**July 9** — FAA IA Discussion Meeting, Helena. Location to be announced.

**July 11** — Malmstrom Open House—Navy Blue Angels.

**July 15 to 17** — Western States Regional Search and Rescue Advisory Council Meeting, Helena. More to come.

**July 18 & 19** — Schafer Meadows Fly-In.

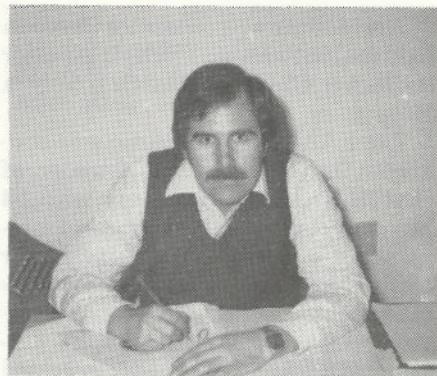
**August 7 to 9** — Beacon Star Antique Airfield Fly-In. Sponsored by the Montana Antique Aircraft Association.

**August 17 to 23** — Aviation Appreciation Week. Sponsored by the Great Falls Chamber of Commerce/Aviation Committee. Contact Ken Brewer for details—454-3473. More details to come.

**October 3** — Helloween Air Race, Great Falls to Jackpot.

**October 9 & 10** — Flying Farmers Convention, Yogo Inn, Lewistown.

## IFR Rule Change



By: Ron Dent  
Yellowstone Airport Manager

Instrument pilots should be aware of the changes to FAR Part 91, effective May 8, 1981. FAR 91.116 and 117 have been combined into a revised FAR 91.116, entitled, "Take-Off and Landing Under IFR" and clarify such ambiguities as landing visibility, visual references, visual descent points and allowable procedure turns.

The present FAR 91.116 does not specify whether the visibility required on an approach plate for a landing following an instrument approach is *ground* or *flight* visibility. The new FAR 91.116 specifies that *flight* visibility must be used and that before a descent from DH or MDA, specific visual references must be observed by the pilot. Reference points in the "runway environment" like a familiar stretch of highway, buildings, stacks, and so forth are no longer valid for descent below MDA or DH. The required reference points include runway threshold, threshold lights, REILs, VASI and so forth. On non-precision approaches, the pilot must be able to identify the visual descent point before descending below MDA.

In the new FAR 91.116 a pilot may not make a procedure turn on a radar vector to final approach fix, on a timed approach from a holding fix or on an approach for which the procedure specifies NoPT unless "cleared by ATC."

Instrument pilots should obtain a copy of and familiarize themselves with the new provisions of this regulation change.

## Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic

The Montana Aeronautics Division held its 1981 annual Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic on March 6 to 8 in Helena.

The FAA-approved clinic was conducted by Greg Gorak, founder of GAITS Teaching Seminars with 24 hours of classroom instruction for renewal of all current flight instructor certificates and covered annual requirements for all chief flight instructors. Designated flight instructor examiners were provided after the clinic for 6 CFI's needing check rides.

According to the critiques filled out by the participants the GAITS program was once again categorized as "outstanding." Approximately 37 instructors attended the clinic with the Division providing stipends for thirty selected applicants.



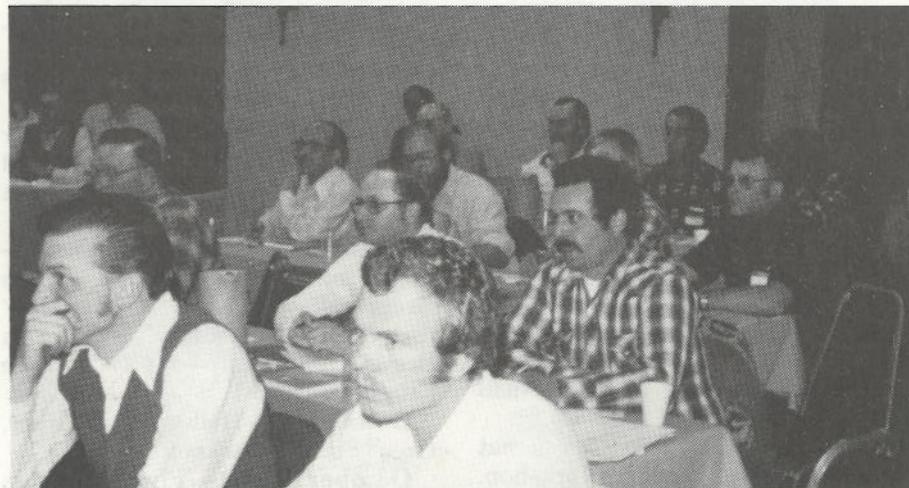
Greg Gorak, the one-man program, who provided an outstanding Flight Instructors Refresher Clinic.



Mike Ferguson, left, Administrator of the Aeronautics Division, presented Greg with a wing pin given to flight instructors completing the course.



Greg provided personalized group instruction throughout the clinic.



Approximately 37 instructors attended the recent FIRC.

## Flying to Jackson Hole?

The National Park Service and the U.S. Department of the Interior have come under criticism from environmentalists who complain that the noise from aircraft using the Jackson Airport disturbs the visitors in the park and is detrimental to the wildlife in the park. The Jackson Hole Airport lies within the southern boundary of the Grand Teton National Park on land leased from the Park Service. The current lease for the airport land, which is due to expire in 1995, will not be renewed according to the U.S. Department of the Interior. The National Park Service earlier tried to implement a noise abatement plan that would have banned Boeing 737's, however, this plan was not implemented because Congress did not allow funds for it.

Through a voluntary noise abatement plan airport supporters are now attempting to demonstrate that the airport can remain at its present site and not create a disturbance in the park. The plan asks pilots to avoid operations over the park at less than 3000 feet above ground level. Jeppesen offers a briefing chart on the noise abatement plan that is found with the instrument approach plates for the Jackson Airport. As a courtesy to our neighboring state all Montana pilots flying into Jackson are asked to contact the Jackson Unicom (122.8 mHz) for further information before landing.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

### FAA Certificates Issued Recently to Pilots

#### PRIVATE

Mark E. Blair, Missoula  
Randy G. Martin, Missoula  
Robert R. Taylor, Hamilton  
James D. Mildenberger, Hamilton  
Dana D. Moore, Bozeman  
Roxana P. Hegeman, Belgrade  
Kenneth M. Sturgis, Darby  
Jack A. Rochford, Three Forks  
Patricia A. Wood, Loma  
Richard E. Wood, Loma

Charles J. Naeseth, Ft. Benton  
Allan H. Starke, Helena  
John V. Kennedy, Billings  
Donald B. Stewart, Billings  
Don D. Link, Hardin  
John R. Viviano, Billings  
Thomas S. Hines, Jr., Billings  
Timothy I. Person, Billings  
Robin M. Stiff, Billings  
Randy A. Baker, Wolf Point  
Douglas C. Rahn, Lewistown  
Gayle E. Patrick, Wagner  
Douglas C. Guidice, Miles City  
Dennis L. Proffit, Gardiner  
Robert W. Molen, Billings

#### INSTRUCTOR

Jonathan Potter, Belgrade (Renew)  
Jeffrey B. Morrison, Helena (Renew)  
Thomas E. Marchwick, Belgrade (Renew)  
Jack H. Townsend, Conner (Renew)  
Paul W. Thurmond, Butte (Renew)  
Vernon N. Turner, Lincoln (Renew)  
Greg L. Blanchfield, Kalispell (Renew)  
Donald L. Anderson, Billings (Renew)  
Roger Stradley, Belgrade (Renew)  
Ray Brennan, Great Falls (Renew)  
Frank Kummerfeldt, Nashua (Renew)  
Bill Abel, Lewistown (Renew)  
Larry E. Steck, Helena (Renew)  
Ron Guyton, Fairfield (Renew)  
Robert Justesen, Belgrade (Renew)  
Bob Van Meter, East Helena (Renew)  
William Colman, Ft. Benton (Renew)  
Robert Johnson, Sidney (Renew)  
Wylie L. Gregg, Butte (Renew)  
Mitchell J. Etchart, Glasgow (Reinst)  
Keith W. Fitchett, Laurel (Renew)  
Douglas L. Edman, Roundup  
Jack Wilson, Helena (Reinst)  
Thomas A. Gibson, Billings (Renew)  
Daniel Darkenwald, Billings (Renew)  
Bruce A. Miklos, Billings  
Robert D. Vandyken, Manhattan (Instrument)

MULTI ENGINE  
Safe H. Olson, Billings  
William P. Allred, Arlee

Gus S. Johnson, Missoula  
Kenneth A. Baze, Butte

#### ATP

Gary A. Lanoue, Missoula  
Keith W. Fitchett, Laurel  
Allen King, Billings

#### INSTRUMENT

Fred W. Brandon, Powell  
Daniel W. McGee, Missoula  
Kathy R. Hammond, Ramsay  
Raymond J. Brandewie, Big Fork  
Stephen S. Young, Kalispell

## Great Falls Flying Festival

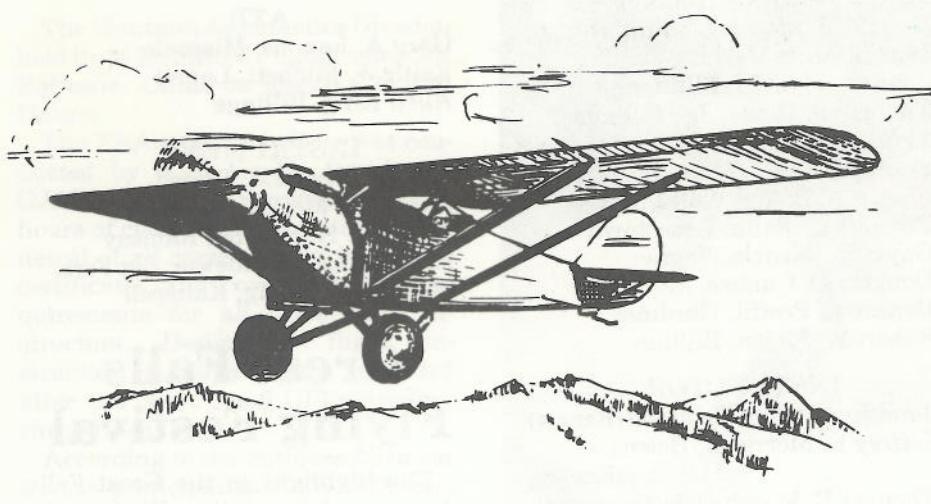
The highlight to the Great Falls Aviation Appreciation Week to be held August 17 through 23, 1981, will be a two-day civilian air show on Saturday and Sunday. The Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce has given the "go ahead" to a special Task Force of the Aviation Committee to make arrangements for the event. The project is co-chaired by Ken Brewer and Doug Smith.

The co-chairmen stated the goals of the week include fostering the recognition of aviation in all its aspects, the people involved in aviation in the Great Falls area, Great Falls International Airport and the support of the business and political communities for aviation. It also is intended to foster aviation education and safety.

The air show will feature two widely recognized international aerobatic pilots, Art Scholl and Bob Hoover, with Bozeman's Al Newby, Bud Granley in his AT-6 and World Aerobatic Champion Mike Wigen.

The air show will be presented at low level to provide all with a close up view of the intricate flight maneuvers. The show will be presented at the Great Falls International Airport along with parachute jumps, static displays, commercial booths, and hot air balloons. Admission will be charged.

The week preceding the air show will be devoted to receptions for airport employees and regional officials plus open houses and fly-ins which are expected to draw participants from throughout the west.



## Pilot Aids

Montana Aeronautics Chart	\$2.00
Montana Airport Directory	\$2.00
Annual Subscription to Montana and the Sky	\$2.00

*Flight Plans are a nuisance only to the pilots who should have filed them.*

2,500 copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of \$.18 per copy, for a total cost of \$447.17, which included \$230.00 for printing and \$217.17 for distribution.

### MEMBER NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE AVIATION OFFICIALS

**PURPOSE—** “To foster aviation, as an industry, as a mode of transportation for persons and property and as an arm of the national defense; to join with the Federal Government and other groups in research, development, and advancement of aviation; to develop uniform laws and regulations; and to otherwise encourage cooperation and mutual aid among the several states.”

April, 1981

Second-Class  
Postage Paid at  
Helena, MT 59604



P.O. Box 5178

Helena, Montana 59604

